

Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

IO-13 SS-15 NSC-10 PRS-01 PA-03 INR-10 RSC-01 RSR-01

INRE-00 /069 W

----- 043490

O 090905Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2486

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CJCS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

COMUSSAG IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 8223

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE FOR S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. FANK FORCES LINKED UP LATE THURSDAY AFTERNOON THUS
CLEARING HIGHWAY ONE FROM PHNOM PENH TO NEAK LUONG.
THE ENEMY APPARENTLY WAS FORCED TO WITHDRAW IN THE
FACE OF THE INTENSIVE EFFORTS AND SUPERIOR RESOURCES
OF THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

2. NORTHWEST OF POCHENTONG AIRFIELD, INFILTRATED
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ENEMY UNITS CONTINUE TO HARASS GOVERNMENT POSITIONS IN

THE AREA. FOUR SWEEPS BY GOVERNMENT FORCES ON WEDNESDAY MADE CONTACT WITH PLATOON AND COMPANY-SIZED ENEMY FORCES. TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT AS WELL AS ARTILLERY HELPED FORCE AN ENEMY WITHDRAWAL.

3. SMALL ENEMY UNITS HAVE BEEN LEFT BEHIND IN THE BASSAC-MEKONG CONFLUENCE SOUTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH TO HARASS AND PROBE FANK POSITIONS AND SUPPLY LINES. FATHER WEST IN THE ROUTE 2-3 AREA, THE GOVERNMENT PUSH TO THE PREK THNOAT RIVER IS CONTINUING AS FANK FORCES CONSIDATE THEIR POSITIONS.

4. INVESTIGATIONS ARE CONTINUING IN THE REPORTED BOMBING SUNDAY OF THE ROUTE ONE VILLAGE OF VEAL SBOV WHICH HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY OCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY. CONFLICTING FIELD REPORTS TELL OF 11 TO 15 CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AS WELL AS ENEMY DEATHS. AMERICAN EMBASSY INQUIRIES OF USSAG AT NAKORN PHNOM SHOW THERE WERE NO U.S. AIR STRIKES WITHIN ONE KILOMETER OF THE TOWN ON THE DAY AND AT THE TIME THE INCIDENT IS REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE. FYI ONLY OFFICIAL FANK SOURCES DISCLOSED AS THE SAME TIME THAT FOUR T-28 AS WELL AS THERE AU-24 SORTIES WERE REPORTED AT THE VEAL SBOV LOCATION ON SUNDAY. END FYI. WE ASSUME THAT THE VEAL SBOV TACTICAL OPERATION ON SUNDAY IS THE INCIDENT TO WHICH REUTERS AND AFP REFER. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AT THIS TIME TO INDICATE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A "THIRD AMERICAN BOMBING INCIDENT".

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